

## Introduced by Senator Speier

February 22, 2005

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An act to add Chapter 9.8 (commencing with Section 6270) to Title 7 of Part 3 of the Penal Code, relating to correctional facilities.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 622, as introduced, Speier. Correctional facilities: charter schools.

Existing law prescribes the authority and duties of the Youth and Adult Correctional Agency with regard to state correctional facilities and prisoners or wards.

This bill would require the Youth and Adult Correctional Agency to create a charter school program within each of its correctional facilities that would provide a basic education for every inmate or ward, except as specified. The bill would require each charter school program to consist of specified components, and would require the agency to annually report its findings to the Legislature in that regard. The bill would further require that those reports be made public.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 9.8 (commencing with Section 6270) is  
2 added to Title 7 of Part 3 of the Penal Code, to read:

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4 CHAPTER 9.8. CHARTER SCHOOLS

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6 6270. Within 180 days after the effective date of the act  
7 adding this chapter, the Youth and Adult Correctional Agency

1 shall implement a year-round charter school at every state or  
2 privately operated Department of Corrections facility and  
3 Department of the Youth Authority facility.

4 6271. Each charter school shall provide a basic education for  
5 every inmate or ward, excluding those sentenced to death or  
6 serving life sentences without possibility of parole. The  
7 Department of Corrections and the Department of the Youth  
8 Authority shall establish and implement an effective intake  
9 assessment protocol and progress assessment procedures.

10 6272. The charter school program shall include, but not be  
11 limited to, the following components: identification and  
12 assessment; placement and intervention; orientation; postrelease;  
13 goal oriented progress reports; outcome measures; parental and  
14 family involvement; vocational certification; advisory  
15 committees utilizing academicians from universities; certified  
16 instructors; health and safety procedures; sensitivity to racial,  
17 ethnic, and cultural balances; admissions criteria; accountability  
18 and audits; maximum class sizes; evaluation procedures; public  
19 comment; dispute resolution; access to records; peer counseling;  
20 drug and alcohol therapy; anger management skills; prevention  
21 and relapse; mental, emotional, spiritual, and physical health  
22 skills; violence prevention skills; community restoration; victim  
23 awareness; victim recovery; employment skills, including mock  
24 interviews; parenting skills; drivers education; critical thinking;  
25 organizational skills; study habit skills; tutoring; sexual abuse  
26 recovery; mentoring; physical education; nutrition; dress code;  
27 housing skills; resume writing; computer literacy; telephone  
28 etiquette; graduation ceremonies; visual and performing arts;  
29 foreign language; disciplinary procedures; personal hygiene;  
30 culinary; banking; collaboration with parole units; crisis  
31 intervention; counseling; and a plan for the charter school to  
32 operate during lock-downs.

33 6273. If a particular facility will be unable to meet the  
34 180-day deadline specified in Section 6270, within 30 days after  
35 the effective date of the act adding this chapter, the Youth and  
36 Adult Correctional Agency shall submit to the Governor and the  
37 Legislature in writing the reason for which the facility will be  
38 unable meet that deadline.

39 6274. The Youth and Adult Correctional Agency shall  
40 annually report to the Legislature all findings, outcomes, and

- 1 statistics collected with regard to the charter school program. The
- 2 Youth and Adult Correctional Agency shall also make this
- 3 information available to the public.

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